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When he sells a book he removes the mark with a rubber. The thief had simply stolen these volumes here and there and not taken the precaution to remove the mark, and the dealer to whom he had offered them for sale had identified them. The books were returned to their owners. When the thief returned for his money he was given a list of names and told to go there and collect. It is scarcely necessary to state whether he went or not, I imagine

THE NUMISMATICAL SOCIETY

At the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society's regular meeting at the Academy of Medicine Building, 17 West 43d street, on May 15, President Parish presiding, the Executive Committee reported that the proposition for resident membership of Louis Meredith Howland, and for corresponding membership of Rev. William King Eddy, of Sidon, Syria, and Charles H. Huberich, of San Antonio, Texas, had been received and approved. The Executive Committee was authorized to solicit subscriptions for \$500 to cover the expenses of printing annual proceedings and papers read before the society to date, together with a history of the society, roll of members, etc.; also to cover the expenses of removal to the new quarters in the Academy of Medicine Building, fittings, etc. Mr. A. C. Zabriskie, as chairman of the Building Committee, reported that he felt much good had been accomplished, for through the committee's endeavors the society had changed its former uncomfortable quarters to new and permanent ones which were all that could be desired.

The Publication Committee reported that they were going ahead with the printing of proceedings, and would hope to place them in the hands of members before the next regular meeting. The Librarian reported additions of five bound volumes and twenty pamphlets. The books were gifts of Smithsonian Institution, Chas. H. Huberich, H. R. Drowne, Lyman H. Low and B. L. Belden. The Curator of Numismatics reported two very important donations: a collection of some two or three hundred tokens of Holland, comprising quite a collection of these pieces from Daniel Parish, Jr.; also from the former treasurer, Mr. Benjamin Betts, a large iron safe, specially arranged for the storage of the most valuable coins and medals. On motion the society tendered Mr. Betts a special vote of thanks for his useful and valuable gift. The Curator of Archaeology requested an allotment of space in which to exhibit archaeological specimens, and hoped it would lead to additions in that department.

Mr. D. Z. Noorian, an American who acted as interpreter for the Catherine Lorillard Wolfe and University of Pennsylvania expeditions to explore regions around Babylonia, was introduced to the society. A letter of good wishes was read from corresponding member J. A. Bolen, of Springfield, Mass.

A NEW ART SALESROOM

THE season of the Fifth Avenue Auction Rooms being practically ended, the summer at this establishment will be largely devoted to extending and improving the place, with a view to the largest possible expansion of its business. A part of this labor involves the building of a gallery, in which the most numerous collection of pictures may be shown by day under an admirably-planned system of top-lighting. This new gallery, which will measure 28x125 feet of floor, will be ready in ample time for the opening of the fall season, and contracts for picture sales may be negotiated at any time during the summer against the inauguration of the new annex. The provisions for the display and sale of fine furniture, bric-à-brac, tapestries and other objects of art will also be amplified, and it is expected that the renovated Fifth Avenue Auction Rooms will be, in their entirety, one of the most capacious and commodious sales establishments in the country.

RELICS AND RUBBISH

JOSEPH BRADDON, of Yonkers, N. Y., has in his possession an Indian flint ax which weighs about eight pounds and was found by some workmen digging on the Morrell farm at Scarborough, near by.

ALDERMAN HENRY G. MILLER, of Lebanon, Pa., has a number of interesting local documents, land deeds, etc., dating back to the commencement of the eighteenth century, and containing autographs of Thomas Penn, Caspar Wistar and many other Pennsylvania notables.

MRS. ELIZABETH FRANK, of Baltimore, Md., possesses a curious little collection of Martin Luther relics, including a cross and pair of earrings once worn by the great reformer's mother, and a Bible and a tea cup which are credited to the same ownership—in spite of the fact that tea was unknown in Germany in good Frau Luther's time.

MRS. AUGUSTA W. PARKER, of Milford, Mass., has presented to the Wilde Memorial Library, at Acton, Mass., a pair of old-fashioned shoe-buckles and a lock of hair, relics of James Hayward, one of the Minute Men of 1775 who was killed at Lexington.

SHAKESPEARE IN OMAHA

(Special Correspondence of THE COLLECTOR)

IN a recent issue of THE COLLECTOR was reviewed Mr. D. M. Tredwell's extremely interesting "Monograph on Privately Illustrated Books," and in this work occurs the following:

Many of our readers will be surprised to learn that some of the rarest illustrated books in the country are to be found in Nebraska. The collection of W. H. Wyman, of Omaha, occupies that enviable position; there are 100 illustrated volumes in Mr. Wyman's library, containing nearly 10,000 extra illustrations.

Of the "Works of Shakespeare," he has the Routledge edition, 1881, edited by Staunton and illustrated by Gilbert. This work he has extended to forty volumes by the insertion of 2,681 prints, with especially printed title page to each volume. Volume I is "Life," with 110 illustrations, pertaining to the life only. Volume II, "Life," with 135 portraits only. Volumes III to XXXIX are the thirty-seven plays, one to each volume, with 2,365 prints. Volume XL is the poems, containing 71 extra illustrations. As to the illustrations, they were sent with the original volumes to W. W. Sabin, London, in January, 1882. Mr. Sabin had the work in hand a year and a half, collecting additional illustrations and improving poor ones, etc. Some of them are very fine. A water color of Shakespeare's house was prepared especially for this work, which was bound in London and returned in 1883.

Also a "Biography of William Shakespeare," by Charles Knight. This is the largest edition; the pages are 13x9 inches. It is illustrated by 130 inserted prints of portraits and scenes illustrative of Shakespeare's life. Amongst the portraits is an undoubted impression of the Droeshout copperplate, first attached to the folio of 1623. This copy bears that date, but was attached to some other work. Superbly bound in brown morocco by Karrmann of Cincinnati.

Also, W. H. Wyman's "Bibliography of the Bacon-Shakespeare Controversy," with subsequent papers, extra illustrated by portraits, mostly photographs, of sixty of the prominent writers on the subject. "Dictionary of American Biography," by Francis S. Drake, Boston, 1881; one volume extended to twenty volumes by the insertion of 3,160 portraits. These are of all classes—steel, colored, and an occasional photograph—and include 1,614 different persons mentioned in the work. Of Washington there are thirty; Lincoln, thirty-one. There are some drawings in India ink, made expressly for the work. Bound by Karrmann of Cincinnati.

"Library Notes," by A. P. Russell, 1881; one volume extended to three; illustrated by portrait of the author and 352 portraits of celebrated authors and others mentioned in the work. An interesting and excellently illustrated work.

"The Stage," by James E. Murdoch, 1880. One volume extended to two by the insertion of 129 prints, many old and rare portraits of actors in character.

"Life of Horace Greeley," by L. D. Ingersoll, 1873. One volume extended to three by the insertion of 380 illustrations of his immediate contemporaries and political associates, a peculiar autograph letter, and about twenty different portraits of Greeley.

"History of the Flag of the United States of America," by Admiral George H. Preble, 1880. One volume extended to three, with 259 illustrations, mostly of persons prominently connected with the military and naval history of the United States.

The above are not all, but constitute the most attractive and valuable of the list.

Flattering as Mr. Tredwell's tribute to the collection of Mr. Wyman is, it does not do that gentleman all the justice he deserves. Mr. Wyman came from Cincinnati about a year ago with his family to cast his fortunes among us. He brought with him a most excellent library of some 1,200 volumes, culled from his Cincinnati books, numbering 2,200; 600 of them are Shakespearean. Two hundred are devoted to the discussion, "Did Bacon write Shakespeare's Plays?" and about 100 volumes are extra-illustrated. These two subjects are what Mr. Wyman admits to be his hobbies—he believes every man should have a hobby or two and should ride them, and from these he has derived much that was at once pleasant and educational. Of the remaining volumes there are old books, new books, reference books and books such as those would enjoy who have drunk "deep of the Pierian spring."

Of rare old books there are "Biblia Sacra," a very early specimen of printing without title-page, or colophon, or date; having initial letters rubricated, and is in fine order. Mr. Wyman places its date not earlier than 1480. The famous old "Breeches" Bible, 1614, is so called on account of the translation of the third chapter Genesis, seventh verse, thus: "Then the eyes of them both were opened and they knew that they were naked and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves breeches." This is bound in the same volume with Sternhold & Hopkins' "Whole Booke of Psalmes" (1633) and a concordance, 1613. Among others are "Beza's Sermons," in vellum binding, 1687, "Raleigh's History of

the World," folio, with curious maps, 1671; "The New World of Worlds," "Phillip's Dictionary," 1706; "Dryden's Fables," folio, 1700; "Don Quixote," folio, 1687.

Of old manuscripts, although not paying especial attention to their collection, Mr. Wyman has a number of odd specimens. The preciousness of these same old tomes is shown by the family crests upon their fly-leaves, pointing to their transmission from generation to generation. "Horæ Marie Virginis" (the "Book of Hours of the Holy Virgin") is written upon vellum, illustrated with five large miniatures and has numerous colored initials. It is in the dialect of Westphalia, and dates about 1450. "Cantica Cantorum," manuscript on vellum and in original boards, fifteenth century, is a book of hours (devotions), apparently written for the use of the nuns of St. Cecilia at Hoern. "Oratorio Dominica" is the Lord's Prayer in forty-four different languages. There are other manuscripts to which Mr. Wyman attaches little importance.

Mr. Wyman possesses twenty different editions of Shakespeare. Pickering's diamond edition must be regarded as a curiosity only. There are nine volumes, the smallest ever printed. Pope's quarto of 1725, of seven volumes, is said to be the poorest edition extant—the most unreliable—and the reason given is, that Pope could not resist coloring the great dramatist with something of his own hue. A full set of fac-similes of the early quartos: Johnson and Stevens, of 1788, twelve volumes, which includes Rowe's Life; the Bankside, being a comparison, line by line, of the early quartos and the first folio; Boydell's plate edition of 1832—a curious edition—four pages of the text to each page, to utilize the smaller Boydell plates, are all of interest and of great value, but to the Shakespearian student the fac-simile and reprints of the first folio are of greater worth. There are four—a complete set of all now published. The Staunton folio of 1866, folio of 1808, Booth's reprint quarto, 1864, and one smaller reproduction of Staunton. The reproduction is done by photo-lithography. "Measure for Measure" and a "Midsummer Night's Dream" are originals from a broken copy of the folio of 1632 (the second folio). "Othello," quarto, the London edition, 1681, Boaden's (1824) and Wivell's (1827), books on the Shakespeare portraits, are each the author's own copies, with manuscript notes in the author's handwriting in each. A very curious old book is of scraps and illustrations, play bills and the like, which was purchased in London. Covent Garden and Drury Lane play bills, with the names of Mr. Kemble and Mrs. Siddons upon them, bring these old-day celebrities provokingly near. There are about 600 different portraits of Shakespeare in Mr. Wyman's library.

Other extra-illustrated works in Mr. Wyman's collection are La Fontaine's "Fables," quarto, illustrated by Gustave Doré (one volume extended to four), with several hundred illustrations from an old French work—the set bound in full brown morocco. "Autographs of Our Authors," Baltimore, 1864, quarto, full red morocco, with about 100 inserted portraits, and "As You Like It," folio copy from Knight, specially illustrated with scenery and portraits of actors and actresses.

But to Mr. Wyman's Bacon-Shakespeare library he owes his place in the literary world. A man may, in dilettante fashion, add books to his shelves or add illustrations to his books, but only the student delves into these books and into forgotten lore for the root which the book-worm feeds upon. He is the author of "The Bacon-Shakespeare Bibliography," a reference book of indisputable value to all interested in a discussion which gives to the nineteenth century what the "Letters of Junius" did to the century past. In the preface the author explains: "While personally entertaining no doubts as to Shakespeare's authorship, the compiler of this book believes that the discussion has its compensating features in inciting a study of the Shakespearian dramas and of the works as well of the dramatists and philosophers—in fact, the literary history—of the Elizabethan age." In compiling this work Mr. Wyman has collected his exhaustive library, which takes the controversy in its broad sense, including all doubts as to the authorship and all of the supposed authors. It is the most complete one in existence—in fact the only one that is complete. The next best is that of the Shakespeare Library in Birmingham, England. A copy, in some form, of the 463 titles listed in the Bibliography, are here, though some are, of necessity, typewritten or in manuscript. There are fifty scrap-books, containing over 4,000 different items, from a magazine article to a squib, and among them autograph letters from nearly all of the living writers on the subject. Among them are Judge Holmes, Appleton Morgan, Mr. Donnelly, Richard Grant White, A. A. Adey, William D. O'Connor, E. A. Calkins, William J. Rolfe, Mrs. Henshaw, of this country; Dr. Ingleby, William Henry Smith, Dr. Theobald, Sir Theodore and Lady Martin (Helen Faucit), Mrs. Pott, Mrs. Stopes, of England; Dr. Karl Müller, of Germany; Mr. Caldwell, of Australia;

Sir Patrick Fox and Rev. W. H. Gulliver, of New Zealand; Harry S. Caldecott, of South Africa.

A visit to Mr. Wyman's library—for everyone is cordially welcomed there, both by Mr. Wyman and his wife, who takes an interest in the controversy and who has assisted in so far as to make several very good translations of German works on the subject—is a treat no amateur in art or letters who may happen to visit Omaha can afford to deprive himself of.

OMAHA, Neb., June 10, 1892.

O. W. H.

THE DEVIL'S LIBRARY

CONSIDERING that the Church has a literature of its own, there is no reason why the great enemy of the Church should not. Nevertheless, I was not aware that Satan owned so extensive a library specially dedicated to himself till I came upon an old-time catalogue of "the most valuable books relating to the Devil, his origin, greatness and influence." This catalogue covers forty pages with print, including over five hundred volumes, and does not profess to be anything like complete. It is introduced by the motto, "Fools deride—Philosophers investigate," and by four motto verses, including the fine epigram by Defoe:

Bad as he is, the Devil may be abused,
Be falsely charged and causelessly accused,
When men unwilling to be blamed alone,
Shift off those Crimes on Him which are their own.

A series of introductory illustrations show the Devil as he has been variously delineated by various races. The Egyptian Devil seems to have been a cross between a dog and a hog, walking on his hind legs with the assistance of a staff. The Assyrian has a lion's body with wings, a scaly neck and a dragon's head with horns. The Cingalese Satan has two heads with tusks, four arms, sits on a colt and has venomous snakes climbing all over him. The French is the first of the old Devils to exhibit the combined traits so familiar to us now. He has horns, the ears of an ass, a goat's tail and rooster's claws, but his body and head are human, with bat's wings growing from the shoulders. This enemy of man is shown in the cut to be grinning in a most malignant and diabolical manner, and scattering gold around to tempt his victims within the clutches of his claws.

But Beelzebub has been represented in other and far more polite forms. There is a print from the illustrations of Goethe's "Faust," which shows him as a courtly gentleman, elegant in dress and polished in manners. It seems as if mankind, as it advanced in refinement, improved its great foe as it has improved, or at least refined, the vices with which it pays him tribute. Thus, in the thirteenth century, the English Devil was a horrible monster, with the distorted body of a man, the horned head of a bull, a docked tail like a hackney horse, only three fingers and toes on each extremity, spikes at its knees and shins like the spurs of a gamecock.

By Thomas Landseer's time, however, the artist had elevated him to a quite genteel sort of person, with a sardonic leer, but good clothes and an unblemished anatomy. Landseer—the brother of Sir Edwin, it should be stated—once made ten etchings, called "The Devil's Walk," which are very rare and valuable. The most industrious and extensive of all artistic glorifiers of his Satanic Majesty, however, has been George Cruikshank. That ingenious draughtsman has pictured him in every conceivable form, as long as it was hateful, for he has always been too conscientious to paint the Devil as an attractive being. "The True Legend of St. Dunstan and the Devil" is one of Cruikshank's most humorous works, and his "Gentleman in Black" is almost inimitable, as far as the unique grotesqueness of the plates is concerned.

The catalogue contains a choice assortment of proverbs applying to the ruler of the infernal regions. All are quaint and some are very curious indeed. Thus, one tells us "The Devil is good when he is pleased," another that "Satin is all Christianity," and another still that "the Devil is ever God's ape." "Tis a sin to belie the Devil," "An idle brain is the Devil's workshop," "Idle men are the Devil's playfellows," "What is gotten over the Devil's back is spent under his belly," "It's an ill battle when the Devil carries the colors," "He must have a long spoon that must eat with the Devil," "Where God builds a church, there the Devil builds a chapel," and "Hell and chancery are always open," are some odd sayings. Odder still are: "The Devil's meal is half bran," "Seldom lies the Devil dead in a ditch," and "Hell is useless to the sages, but necessary to the blind populace," which latter is a very true and philosophic statement indeed.